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Memorandum

To: Co-Chairs Clyde Burmaster & Barry Weinstein, MD

From: Government Affairs Subcommittee Chair Peter McMahon

Re: July and October, 2005 meetings

Date: October 14, 2005

The Erie-Niagara Regional Partnership Government Affairs Subcommittee met July 12 and October 4, 2005 at the UB Institute for Local Governance and Regional Growth. Present for the July meeting were subcommittee members McMahon, Allen, Ellis, and Meal. Present for the June meeting were subcommittee members McMahon and Meal, as well as ENRP Member Samuel Ferraro.

Regional Economic Development Outreach:

Approval was granted in 2004 to organize an educational forum in conjunction with the Buffalo Niagara Enterprise on the BNE's role in economic development, the Regional Economic Development Strategy (REDS), the county IDAs, and ENRP, the Regional Economic Development Database and Site Finder; all presented in the context of the economic development process for the region.

The presentation was put back on track for September, but needed to be rescheduled due to a change in the agenda of the Erie County Association of Local Governments coupled with some needed updates in the presentation itself. Recognizing the upcoming budget season, followed by the winter, the Subcommittee is now looking to hold the presentations in March or April, 2006. This also allows for time to brief incoming county legislators prior to the sessions.

Erie County Control Board

The Subcommittee reviewed the timetable for Erie County to submit a four year plan and 2006 budget. As municipalities can access the funds available for reorganization, it was suggested that this might be an opportunity for ENRP to get involved. The importance of getting a line item for ENRP included in the budget was also discussed.

Other Topics

Other topics discussed included the merits of consolidating or networking E-911 systems, electronic permitting, and risk management.